

Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office Washington, D.C. 20231 www.uspto.gov

Leonard C. Mitchard NIXON & VANDERHYE 1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor Arlington, VA 22201

In re Application of:

OUIBELL, et al.

U.S. Application No.: 09/171,671

PCT No.: PCT/GB97/01158

International Filing Date: 24 April 1997

Priority Date: 24 April 1996

Attorney's Docket No.: 179-28

For: AUTO-DECONVOLUTING

COMBINATORIAL LIBRARIES

DECISION REGARDING PETITION

UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)

On 08 December 1999, this Office issued a decision dismissing applicants petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), filed on 19 April 1999, for failure to satisfy all the requirements of a grantable petition.

On 01 May 2000, applicants filed the "Status Inquiry" considered herein. This Status Inquiry asserts that on 07 June 1999 applicants filed a request for withdrawal of the petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), accompanied by a declaration executed by all the inventors. Applicants have attached a copy of the request for withdrawal and the executed declaration to the Status Inquiry, along with a copy of a return postcard itemizing the declaration and bearing a USPTO receipt stamp dated 07 June 1999.

Based on applicants' statements and the stamped return postcard, it is concluded that applicants filed the request for withdrawal of the petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) and the fully executed declaration on 07 June 1999, well before the decision on applicants' petition was issued. Accordingly, the decision on applicants' petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a) mailed on 08 December 1999 is hereby appropriately **VACATED**; the petition is considered **MOOT**.

The declaration filed on 07 June 1999 is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.497 and is a proper response to the Notification Of Missing Requirements.

The application has been forwarded to the National Stage Processing Branch of the Office of PCT Operations for further processing in accordance with this decision. The 35 U.S.C. 371(c) date is 07 June 1999.

Boris Milef .

PCT Legal Examiner

PCT Legal Office

RMR/BM:rmr

Richard M. Ross

PCT Petitions Attorney

PCT Legal Office

Telephone:

(703) 308-6155

Facsimile:

(703) 308-6459